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Press Release

NAGLE DEATH BRINGS SECOND DEGREE MURDER INDICTMENT FOR CIRIGNANO

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Matthew Nagle lived, paralyzed for more than six years after being stabbed at a July 4 celebration in 2001. Today (June 4, 2008) a Norfolk County Grand Jury has indicted the man already convicted of the stabbing for murder in the second degree.

"The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner found that the injuries that Nicholas Cirignano stands convicted of inflicting on Matthew Nagle in July 2001 were the eventual cause of his death in July 2007," Norfolk District Attorney William Keating said after the indictments were returned.

"Although it is not commonplace to be able to bring a murder charge when the victim has lived for several years after the attack, it is also not unprecedented in Massachusetts or elsewhere in the country," District Attorney Keating said. "This is an indictment, and the accused is presumed innocent until proven guilty, but we move forward with confidence in our path."

Local police responded to a large disturbance at the dead-end portion of Caldwell Street in North Weymouth at roughly 10:30 p.m. on July 3, 2001. There they found 22-year-old Matthew R. Nagle (DOB 10-16-79) with a stab wound to the neck. After being transported to Boston Medical Center, doctors learned that his severed spinal cord would render him quadriplegic and unable to breathe without medical assistance.

A Norfolk Superior Court jury convicted Nicholas M. Cirignano (DOB: 12-18-80) February 3, 2005 of assault with intent to kill and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. Assistant District Attorney Robert Nelson asked Judge Judith Fabricant at that time to impose consecutive sentences of 9 ½ to 10 years for each of the counts. Judge Fabricant sentenced Cirignano to 9 to 10 years in state prison a sentence he is still serving.

Nagle passed away on Monday, July 23, 2007.

No date has yet been set for arraignment on the murder indictment issued today, District Attorney Keating said.

Any and all defendants mentioned are legally innocent until proven guilty.